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Date

H0004353-1246

Lois Briggs

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

ROBERT J. SACCOMANNO

Serial No.: 10/752,397

Filed: January 5, 2004

For: Coupling a Tapered Optical Element

to an Optical Fiber

Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants wish to make of record in the above-identified application the document or documents referenced on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each reference is enclosed herewith.

The undersigned believes that this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Accordingly, Applicants do not believe that a fee is due for filing this paper. However, should a first action on the merits have been issued on the same day or before this Information Disclosure Statement is filed, please accept this Information Disclosure Statement under Rule 97(c) and charge the requisite Rule 17(p) fee to our Deposit Account No. 01-1125 and proceed to consider this Information Disclosure Statement.

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It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that each reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This submission does not represent that any referenced document is material or constitutes "prior art." If it should be determined that one or more of the referenced documents constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the reference or references.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentablity of the disclosed invention over any referenced document, should it be applied against the claims of the present application.

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Date: March 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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PTO/SB/08A (10-01)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known		
INIE	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet 1 of 1	OSLIDE	Application Number	10/752,397		
		Filing Date	January 5, 2004			
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				First Named Inventor	Robert J. Saccomanno	
		Application Number 10/752,397 Filing Date January 5, 2004 First Named Inventor Robert J. Saccomanno Art Unit Not Yet Assigned Examiner Name Not Yet Assigned				
			ssary)	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	H0004353-1246	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	No.1	Number- Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
		US-4,148,554	04-10-1979	Magnusson et al.	
		US-4,290,668	09-22-1981	Ellis et al.	
		US-			·
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where	T ⁶
Initials	No. ¹	Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		WO 09/96623	12-20-2001	Murray et al.		

	OTHER PRIOR ART NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹						
Examiner Signature		Date Considered					

^{*} EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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